

# Instruction for Authors

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## Scope

**Open Theology** is an international Open Access, peer-reviewed academic journal that welcomes contributions written in English addressing religion in its various forms and aspects: historical, theological, sociological, psychological, and other. **Open Theology** does not present views of any particular theological school nor of a particular religious organization. The contributions are written by researchers who represent different religious views. The aim of the journal is to promote an international and interdisciplinary dialogue in the field of Theology and Religious Studies.

Scope of the journal covers, but is not restricted to:

- Biblical studies
- Church history
- Systematic theology
- Practical theology
- Ecumenical studies
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- Primitive religions
- Judaism
- Christianity
- Eastern Religions
- Islam
- New religious movements
- Modern spirituality
- Sociology of religion
- Philosophy of religion
- Psychology of religion
- Anthropology of religion
- Dialogue between religion and science

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Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the reported study. All those who have made significant contributions should be listed as co-authors. Where there are others who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research project, they should be named in an Acknowledgement section.

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The Editors reserve the right to decline the submitted manuscript without review, if the studies reported are not sufficiently novel or important to merit publication in the journal. Manuscripts deemed unsuitable (insufficient originality or of limited interest to the target audience) are returned to the author(s) without review. The Editor seeks advice from experts in the appropriate field. Research articles and communications are refereed by a minimum of two

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We accept submission of text, tables and figures as separate files or as a composite file. For your initial submission, we recommend you upload your entire manuscript, including tables and figures, as a single PDF file. If you are invited to submit a revised manuscript, please provide us with individual files: an editable text and publication-quality figures.

- Text files can be submitted in the following formats:
  - MS Word - standard DOCUMENT (.DOC)
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Post-acceptance, text files of the revised manuscript and tables are required for use in the production. Authors should clearly indicate the location(s) of tables and figures in the text if these elements are given separately or at the end of the manuscript. If this information is not provided to the editorial office, we will assume that they should be left at the end of the text.

### **First-Time Submission of Manuscripts**

It is important that authors include a cover letter with their manuscript. Please explain why you consider your manuscript to be suitable for publication in *Open Theology*, why your paper will inspire the other members of your field, and how will it drive academic discussion forward.

### **Submission of Revised Articles**

Resubmitted manuscripts should be accompanied by a letter outlining a point-by-point response to Editor's and reviewers' comments and detailing the changes made to the manuscript. A copy of the original manuscript should be included for comparison if the Editor requests one. If it is the first revision, authors need to return the revised manuscript within 28 days; if it is the second revision, authors need to return the revised manuscript within 14 days. Additional time for resubmission must be requested in advance. If the above mentioned deadlines are not met, the manuscript will be treated as a new submission.

For resubmitted manuscripts, please provide us with an editable text and publication-quality figures. Supply any figures as separate high-resolution, print-ready digital versions.

In addition to the editorial remarks, authors are asked to take care that they have prepared the revised version according to the Journal's style.

## Organization of the Manuscript

We draw particular attention to the importance of carefully preparing the title, keywords and abstract, as these elements are indicators of the manuscript content in bibliographic databases and search engines.

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We suggest the title should be informative, specific to the project, yet concise (75 characters or fewer). Please bear in mind that a title that is comprehensible to a broad academic audience and readers outside your field will attract a wider readership. Avoid specialist abbreviations and non-standard acronyms. Titles should not be presented in title case (words should not be capitalized). Please also provide a brief "running title" of not more than 50 characters.

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In the cover letter, provide the first names (or initials - if used), middle names (or initials - if used), and surnames for all authors. Affiliations should include:

- *Department*
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One of the authors should be designated as the corresponding author to whom inquiries regarding the paper should be directed. It is the corresponding author's responsibility to ensure that the author list and the summary of the author contributions to the study are accurate and complete.

### Abstract

The abstract should not exceed 200 words. The abstract should give a summary of the content of the paper. Mention the main findings without going into methodological detail and summarize briefly the most important items of the paper. Because the abstract will be published separately by abstracting services, it must be complete and understandable without reference to the text.

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List keywords for the work presented (maximum of 5), separated by commas. We suggest that keywords do not replicate those used in the title.

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References should be listed in the alphabetical order. In the text, citations should be put in footnote. References in figure captions and tables should be listed after references in the text. Please use the following style for the reference list:

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Hick, John. *The Rainbow of Faiths*. London: SCM, 1995.

#### Book chapters:

Coco, Angela and Paul Hedges. "Belonging, Behaving, Believing, Becoming: Religion and Identity." In *Controversies in Contemporary Religion*, edited by Paul Hedges, 163-190. Volume I. Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger, 2014.

#### Articles:

Bhagal, Balbinder Singh. "Sikh *Dharam* and Postcolonialism: Hegel, Religion, and Žižek." *Australian Religion Studies Review*, 25:2 (2012), 185-213.

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surname of the author, abbreviated title, page.  
ex. Milbank, "History", 395.

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